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Eisenhowers' Long Sod Story

By Maxine Cheshire

The General Services Administration sodded the lawn and landscaped Julie and David Eisenhower's rented house in Bethesda, but the Secret Service refuses to accept the responsibility for ordering all the yard work that was done.

The Secret Service requested the planting of shrubbery for "security reasons" to screen parts of the property from view. They also had the GSA sod the backyard because it had been dug up to put in "conduits for surveillance equipment."

The dispute between the two government agencies involves authorization for sodding the front of the lot. A GSA sopkesman says the sod was necessary to replace grass damaged by Secret Service agents parking their cars on it.

A Secret Service spokesman says they never parked their cars on the grass.

The 125-foot frontage in question isn't even on the property, which the young Eisenhowers rent from presidential friend Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo.

It is part of the Montgomery County right-of-way, according to neighbors, who were annoyed to see grass put there and iron stakes driven into the ground at the road's edge. That was one of the few places along the narrow lane where cars could park if a driveway filled up with party traffic overflow.

The GSA is still preparing a breakdown on the costs of improvements to the Eisenhower-Rebozo house for official release.

VIP

Julie Eisenhower, meanwhile, is very sensitive on the subject. The only time she bristled during her recent birthday interview with wire service reporters Helen Thomas and Frances Lewine was when they asked her about the house Rebozo bought to lease to the young couple.

Julie's annoyance is apparent even in the tape recordings the two reporters made. "That's *a private* matter," she sniffed, and changed the subject.

Anchoring a Screen

The $750,000 house which former presidential assistant H. R. (Bob) Haldeman is using on a private California island is safe from all intrusions except sight-seeing boats.

Haldeman's hideaway has become such an attraction that boats have been detouring to give gawkers a close-up look.

To try to shield the house from the water side, Haldeman asked a next door neighbor to anchor his yacht there as a screen. The name of the boat made the trip even more worthwhile for sight-seers. It's called "The Hanky-Panky."

Potpourri

The rumors that Tricia Nixon Cox is expecting, denied by the White House last week, apparently started because she has been seen coming and going so frenquently from the doctor's office which is next door to the Diplomatic Reception Room on the ground floor of the Executive Mansion. A source close to her says she is under treatment for a kidney problem.

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